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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/398,652	09/17/99	SAMARAS	W 042390-F5120

QM32/0907

EXAMINER

CHANG, R

ART UNIT

3729

PAPER NUMBER

*3*

DATE MAILED:

09/07/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. <b>09/398,652</b>	Applicant(s) <b>Samaras et al</b>
	Examiner <b>Rick Kiltae Chang</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3729</b>

Responsive to communication(s) filed on Sep 17, 1999

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 1 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

#### Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 19-26  are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_  is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_  is/are allowed.

Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_  is/are rejected.

Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_  is/are objected to.

Claims 19-26  are subject to restriction or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_  is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is  approved  disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All  Some\*  None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

#### Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restriction***

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species I: claim 20.

Species II: claim 22.

Species III: claim 24.

Species IV: claim 25.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 19, 21, 23, and 26 are generic claims.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to

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be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

2. **Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention (Species I, II, III or IV) to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).**

*Conclusion*

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rick Chang whose telephone number is (703) 308-4784. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM.

rc

September 1, 2000

J. C. Chang  
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